

Press Release: For Immediate Release

Forget Lovesick, Admire Wind & Moon
Walasse Ting's Mountains, Water, Flowers & Birds

Duration: 11th October - 31st December, 2015

Dream

Let's go fishing together first see the sea then see the fish
Wait
The fish is gone The sea is gone The sky is gone I am also gone
Watch the bird Flying freely
The sun descends the mountain I also descend the mountain
The sea turns into a bottle of black water
The big mountain falls asleep
I also sink to the bottom of the sea like a fish
The fireflies blink Once every thousand years
A howling sound flies over the clouds Take a step every ten thousand years
I look both ways Without a care in the world The wind is with me
Face like a cherry blossom A game of life Every morning couple East south west
Open seas open skies Everything is ok

(Walasse Ting 1995)

Two years have already passed since the Walasse Ting's exhibition, *Blue Sky in My Heart*, was held in Shanghai in 2013. However, his beautiful paintings of ladies are constantly circulating around the world. Therefore, we have hardly felt that we're losing touch with him as time goes by. This autumn, Longmen Art Projects is presenting a special exhibition: *Forget Lovesick, Admire Wind & Moon – Walasse Ting's Mountains Water Flowers & Birds*, an overview of a group of works that focuses not on his beautiful women, but rather on the artist's encounter with nature, allowing us, once more, to survey his seventy plus years worth of artistic creation along with all of his beautiful women. On October 11, *Forget Lovesick, Admire Wind & Moon – Walasse Ting's Mountains Water Flowers & Birds* will raise its curtains at Shanghai Longmen Art Projects until December 31.

The exhibition will offer a chance for visitors to observe and to feel the legendary artist's romance with the world from up close. As Mia Ting, daughter of Walasse Ting, said when describing her father's spiritual world in the essay *The Garden*:

There are three gardens here. The one where trees and flowers grow outdoors. Step through the glass door and enter the second garden, where you will see ever more exotic varieties, where flowers bloom all year round in every vibrant color of the rainbow. The third garden is his alone, where everything in the universe is his. You will probably never see this garden yourself, only its reflection in the mirror of his paintings, the second garden.

Xi Yaoyi, visiting professor of Shanghai Institute of Visual Art, has graciously written an amazing essay, *An Affair with Nature*, in which he cross-references Walasse Ting's talent across boundaries of culture, nature, and time; interpreting the artist's creations with a historical view through opinions of modern masters in both Western and Eastern art history, while expounding the originality of Ting's works of rice paper paintings from a perspective view of a young art critic of the post-70s generation in China:

Free from the constraint of stylized forms and techniques, Walasse Ting applied the most basic form of painting – outlining with brief strokes and then coloring in parallel, creating a very modern form of expression. Some traditional ink wash painters tend to showcase the beauty of tonality and shading by varying the ink density. This technique can also be found in Wu Guanzhong's works, where he used color ink to enhance the rhythm of tones and add a modern flavor to the painting. To some extent, Ting created a new form by applying color acrylic paint on rice paper. Areas of color connected by smooth brushstrokes have produced an unconventional tone, singing out the artists' perception of life and nature.

In the months leading up to the exhibition, Jesse Ting, son of Walasse Ting, played a crucial role in organizing the show with a magnificent selection of works from the Estate, and daughter Mia, who attended the Art History Department of Brown University, edited and enriched the exhibition album with her essay *The Garden*, in memory of her father, as well as precious photographs of Walasse Ting exploring rice paper painting in his early years. As the beloved son and daughter of the late artist, they are the official managers of the Estate of Walasse Ting, New York. Mia and Jesse will both attend the opening ceremony of the exhibition in Shanghai.



<Rainbow in the Ocean>
Chinese Ink and Acrylic on Rice Paper
Early 1990s
145.2 x 367.7 cm



<Seven Parrots>
Chinese Ink and Acrylic on Rice Paper
Early 1990s
124.5 x 249 cm

Forget Lovesick, Admire Wind & Moon - Walasse Ting's Mountains, Water, Flowers & Birds

Shanghai Longmen Art Projects Solo Exhibition: 11th October - 31st December, 2015

Opening Reception: Sunday 11th October, 2015 3-6pm

Exhibition Dates: Tuesday-Saturday 10am - 6:30pm, 11th October - 31st December, 2015

Exhibition Venue: Longmen Art Projects, Rm102, Tianan Center, No. 338 West Nanjing Rd, Huangpu District, Shanghai, China

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